

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the present application.

The claims are allowable for the reasons set forth herein.
Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Priority Document

Acknowledgement of receipt of priority document EP
00000003.4 is appreciated.

The Office has indicated that the priority document does
not provide support for the claimed invention. This conclusion
is in error. A review of the last several pages of both the
priority document and the instant specification are
substantially identical.

A courtesy copy of the published European Patent
Application EP 1 219 416 is provided herewith for comparison
purposes.

Oath of Declaration

A substitute Declaration and Power of Attorney is provided
herewith.

Objections to the Disclosure

A substitute specification marked with corrections is included herewith. All objections to the disclosure are rendered moot by amendment.

Claim Objections

Claims 2 and 6 are objected to because of formalities. Claims 2 and 6 are amended thereby rendering the objection moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 1-8 have been amended to overcome the rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The claims as amended are directed to statutory subject matter thereby rendering the rejection moot.

New Claims

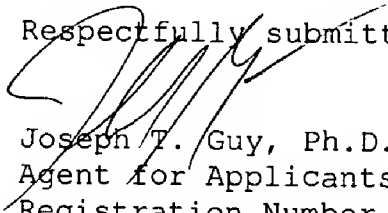
Claims 12-17 are newly entered claims directed to patentable subject matter. No new matter has been entered. A review on the merits, and notice of allowance, is respectfully requested for claims 12-17.

CONCLUSIONS

Claims 1-8 and 12-17 are pending in the present application. All claims are in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance for claims 1-8 and 12-17 is respectfully requested.

August 27, 2003

Respectfully submitted,


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